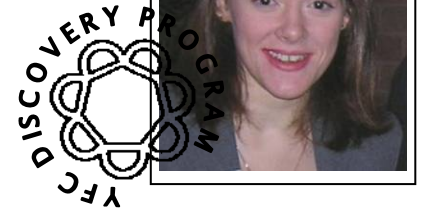




YFA TRAVEL DOCUMENT

Seeing the world with the YFC Discovery Programme

NAME: Donna Tavernor
CLUB: Eccleshall YFC
DESTINATION: Austria
TYPE OF TRIP: Summer Seminar
DURATION: 1 week
DATES OF TRAVEL: 2005



DESCRIPTION OF TRIP:

Do it locally-Youth an important ingredient in sustainable regional development.

The summer seminar what can I say wow, excellent, amazing, exciting, great, fab.

Just a few words to describe the amazing week I had at the summer seminar in Austria. The seminar gave me the chance to meet people from 12 other countries European countries.

Although we all come from different countries and spoke different languages we were all very similar experiences and had a fantastic time.

It all started in the November when I applied for the discovery programme. The international interviews took place on selection day, this is not to scary and a great way to meet people from other clubs. Christine Hope and myself were selected for the summer seminar.

When Christine and I arrived in Austria it was 34oc and there was still snow on the mountains.

The week involved presentations, discussion, and challenges such as crossing a swamp on five sheets of paper or make our way through a giant spiders web.

The international buffet was a brilliant way to sample 12 different countries food and drink and have a snap shot of a countries culture and Staffordshire Oatcakes were a real hit in Austria.

There was the opportunity to see more of Austria, we visited a wool processing factor were the company made insulation for houses, as well as felt and wool to make mattress, people could even come and have a wool bath. An egg-producing farm, on the farm there was a 18,000 egg packing plant per hour. All the waste was then used in a biomass plant that created methane that can be used for heat and electricity. The methane was then used to dry the pasta they made from surplus eggs.

One night we had the chance to watch some really traditional Austrian dancing and even have a go ourselves, the dances seem to got faster and faster.

The motto for the week was learn by doing; a seminar really gives participants that option.

A week was all to short it was sad to leave such wonderful people and an amazing country. The seminar gave me the opportunity to meet new people learn new skills and make new friends; it is an opportunity I will never forget.

Donna Tavernor